

General Information

Name:	Scott Redd	Class hours:	
Phone:	407-366-9493		Monday, 3-5 p.m.
Email:	sredd@rts.edu		
Office:	#3-250	Office hours:	Monday 1- 2 p.m.
Alt. Contact:	Joyce Sisler (jsisler@rts.edu)		Friday 1 - 2 p.m.

Teaching Assistant: Justin Borger

Course Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to deepen our experience and understanding of God's Word found in the historical books of Old Testament (Former Prophets and some Writings according to the categories of the Hebrew Bible) so that we can faithfully articulate it to ourselves, our churches, and the world around us. This purpose will be pursued through an intermediate level study of the historical books, performing a close reading of the texts while employing historical, literary, and theological interpretation. During class gatherings, we will discuss the content of the books, their continuity with the surrounding canon, including the gospel and its proclamation found in the New Testament.

The product of this class will be a deep engagement of the historical books of the Old Testament.

Course Materials

Pratt, Richard L. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Students Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narrative*. Phillipsburg, N.J., P & R, 1990.

Howard, David M. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Historical Books*. Chicago, Il.: Moody, 1993.

Jobes, Karen. *Overview of Esther*. (Cassette tape on reserve in the library)

Lecture Supplement

R. L. Pratt. *I & II Chronicles*. Christian Focus Publications, 1998. pp. 9-59. (on reserve in the library)

Optional Course Materials on Reserve in the Library

- Dillard, Raymond B. & Tremper Longman, III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Zondervan Publishing House, 1994. pp.211-234.
- Hubbard, Robert L. *The Book of Ruth (New International Commentary on the Old Testament) [Hardcover]*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company; 2nd edition, 1989.
- Jobes, Karen H. *Esther*. The NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1999.
- Leithart, Peter J. *1 & 2 Kings*. Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Brazos Press, 2006.
- Long, V. Philips. *The Art of Biblical History*. Foundations of Contemporary Interpretation, Vol. 5. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1994.
- Miller, J. Maxwell, and John H. Hayes. *A History of Ancient Israel and Judah*. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox, 2006.
- Provan, Iain W. *1 and 2 Kings*. New International Biblical Commentary. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1995.
- Ralph, Davis Dale. *Judges: Such A Great Salvation (Focus on the Bible) [Paperback]*. CF4K; Reprint edition, 2007.
- Tsumura, David Toshio. *The First Book of Samuel*. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2007.
- Waltke, Bruce, *Genesis: A Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001

Course Assignments

- **Quizzes. (20%)** You are responsible for all Bible reading. Each quiz will include a question asking if, in preparation for that quiz (i.e. not if you have ever read the material), you thoughtfully read, not skimmed, the assigned Bible reading for that day. Quizzes will cover. Questions will be administered at the beginning of class.
- **Class Participation (20%)** You are expected to engage in thoughtful discussion of the class material
- **HGUS Project. (30%)** You will apply the methodology you have learned in *HGUS* to a passage or series of passages in the Bible.
- **Final Exam (30%)** 3 essay questions in open book, open notes format.

REFORMED  THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SYSTEM

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: OT 510 Judges to Esther
 Professor: Scott Redd
 Campus: Orlando
 Date: February-May 2012

MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes		Rubric	Mini-Justification
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Moderate	Knowledge of historical books will be presented and articulated in written assignments.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	The course is primarily concerned with the historical books of the Old Testament which will be studied as a means to interpretation and exhortation.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Reformed notions of the biblical text as inspired and authoritative provide the framework, method, and justification for such a class.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Rigorous, prayerful engagement with the biblical text for the purpose of learning, spiritual growth and maturity is encouraged.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Study of OT historical books helps students incorporate and understand a biblical worldview.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Moderate	Study of historical books provides an avenue through which faithful scholars communicate the teaching of Scripture in a way that is less bound by native culture.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Capacity to read, interpret, and teach historical books greatly enhances a student's ability to interpret and preach from Scripture.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	The topic of worship is limited to its presence in the text of Deuteronomy.
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Minimal	Again, knowledge of OT historical books enhances knowledge of Scripture and ability to shepherd scripturally.
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Only present in matters relating to cross-linguistic, cross-cultural interpretation and articulation of OT historical books.